

Census Disappoints Officials—Count is 96,955

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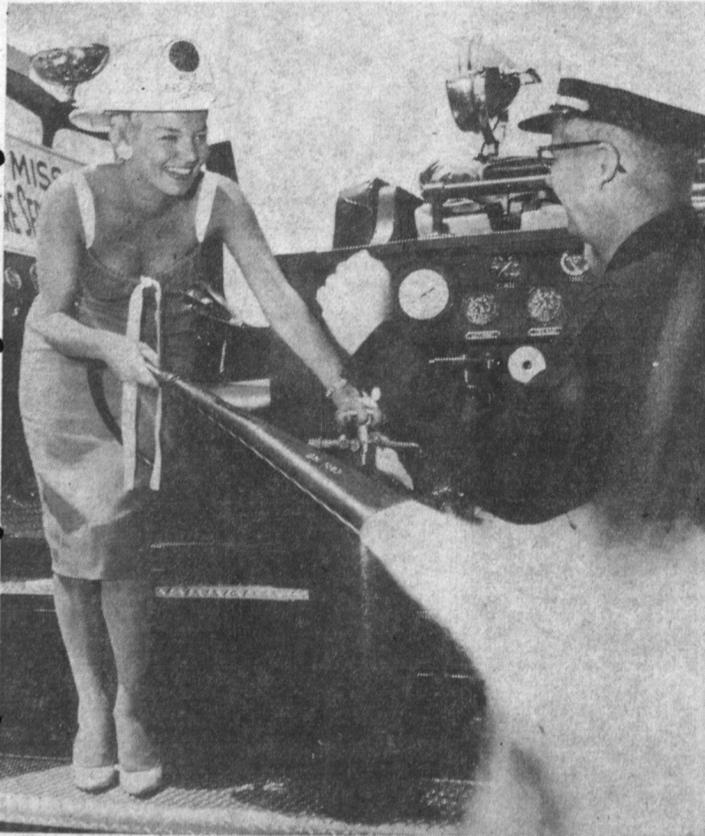
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THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1959

NUMBER 1



OFF TO BLAZES—Actress Tania Velia, Miss Fire Service, gives a fire extinguishing demonstration to Fire Capt. Harry Johnson of the Harbor City station, 1331 West 253rd St., to point out that May 2 will be open house between 10 a. m. and 5 p. m. Johnson invited residents to the "shoestring" strip to visit the fire facility, which takes care of the area.

Theft Ring Arrests Clear 20 Burglaries

\$4 Million Recreation Plan Bared

A \$4,016,900 park and recreation development program, to be financed by a bond issue, was recommended to the Park and Recreation Commission last night.

Harry B. Van Bellehem, director of the Recreation Department, urged that more than half of the amount, \$2,722,500, be used to purchase 11 park sites, totalling 121 acres.

The remainder would be used for improving existing sites.

The director's recommendation did not include the date for a bond issue. Twice before park bond issues were defeated.

Large new sites will include 36 acres at Del Amo Blvd. and Norton Ave.; 25 acres in Waverly Lake, 13 acres at the south end of Madison Ave., and 10 acres at 178th St. and Arlington Ave.

Five and six-acre neighborhood parks were recommended for 166th St. and Arlington Ave., 182nd St. and Arlington, 186th St. and Prairie Ave., Emerald and Victor Sts., 229th St. and Avis Ave., 231st St. and Arlington Ave., and Border Ave. and Plaza Del Amo.

Van Bellehem suggested that the largest single capital project, a community building and picnic site be developed in the civic center at a cost of \$361,000.

He also suggested installing an 18-hole golf course in the Entrencher Sump at a cost of \$150,000.

Other developments include El Nido Park, El Retiro Park, Gunner Park, La Romeria, Los Arboles, Paradise, Pueblo, McMaster, Torrance and Waverly parks.

He also suggested general fund expenditures at the Adult Center, the Benstead Plunge and several parks.

Tuesday night, Councilmen J. A. Beasley and Nickolas O. Drale urged that a citizens committee be appointed and staff members work on plans for a new civic auditorium in the civic center. No action was taken on their suggestion.

Van de Kamp's Opens in Central Torrance Market

Opening of a Van de Kamp's bakery in the downtown Fox Market this weekend was announced by Eddy Liss, supervisor of the supermarket chain.

Opening of the bakery will mark the first time in several years that a Van de Kamp's is available in the downtown area.

It was pointed out that the popular line of bread, cakes and pastries will be available in the new bakery, which has been brought closer to residents in central Torrance.

Demo Presidents to Hear Humphrey at FDR Dinner

Four Torrance Democratic Club presidents will attend the annual Franklin D. Roosevelt dinner tomorrow in the Beverly Hilton Hotel and hear Sen. Hubert Humphrey, presidential hopeful.

Attending from Torrance will be John F. Mulvihill, president of the North Torrance Democratic Club; M. H. Grossman, president of the Shoestring Democratic Club; Richard Sargillo, president of the South Torrance Democratic Club, and John D. Rounsfell Jr., president of Torrance Democrats, Inc.

Men Need Women More Than Women Need Them, Doctor Says

Men need women more than women need men.

That was the conclusion of Kurt Frantl, M.D., speaker in the third lecture in the Harbor District Forum series in San Pedro High School.

The psychiatrist hammered home his point by saying that statistics indicate that marital status influences the outcome of all diseases and injuries.

The survey, he claimed, shows clearly that death from illness and accidents occurs more frequently among single persons than married ones.

Furthermore, he said, the death rate is higher in widowed persons and is highest among divorced, with men more subject to fatalities than

women in each category.

He explained that if 100 married people died from tuberculosis of the lungs, the same illness would claim the lives of 430 single, 463 widowed and 564 divorced men. This compares with 229 single, 267 widowed and 262 divorced women.

"The tremendous influence on all causes of illness is indicated in diseases which long have been known to have emotional factors influencing their outcomes," Dr. Frantl said.

He said the death rate among non-married people is considerably higher in lung cancer than married people.

The psychiatrist maintained that more divorced persons die

in automobile accidents, suicides and homicides.

For 100 married people who die in auto accidents, 367 divorced men die in auto accidents, 332 from other accidents, 384 from suicides and 562 from homicide. This compares with 254 divorced women dying from motor vehicle accidents, 232 from other accidents, 291 from suicides and 344 from homicides.

He explained that these statistics indicate not only the well known fact that accidents do not just happen, but are unconsciously caused by people due to their emotions.

At the final lecture today at 7:30 p. m., Solon D. Samuels, M.D., psychiatrist, will discuss "Aging Is Not a Disease."

Teenagers Held for Burglaries

Arrest of an adult and four teenagers has solved a score of North Torrance burglaries, police announced this week.

Four northside high school students were rounded up by Dets. Ralph Walker and Lonnie Brown Friday night, and jailed after the officers found several stolen articles in their possession.

On Saturday the detectives nabbed Edward Charles Lillitch, 28, an unemployed Hawthorne truck driver, to whom the boys allegedly sold some of the loot. Lillitch, booked on suspicion of receiving stolen property, is a half brother of one of the youths.

Det. Sgt. Don Hamilton said that approximately \$1000 in loot was stolen in the 20 burglaries admitted by the quartet. He said the boys confessed to committing 19 break-ins in 18 days. Two additional burglaries were committed on the night they were arrested.

Among the stolen articles were watches, radios, cameras and jewelry, as well as cash, officers said.

Hamilton said that approximately three-quarters of the stolen goods was recovered while the rest had been sold.

He added that Walker and Brown had been assigned to cruise the north side following a recent outbreak of burglaries in the area.

The juveniles will be turned over to Juvenile Court for processing.

SET MEETING DATES

Meetings of the Civil Defense Commission will be held on the second Monday of the month, it was decided last week.

Suspects in Mafia Boss Death Held

A Torrance longshoreman and two others arrested in the slaying of a reputed Mafia chieftain were arraigned before Superior Judge Lewis Drucker Monday.

John Henry Thwait, 47, of 2080 Middlebrook Rd., and the others, Wilfred W. Robearge, 39, of Manhattan Beach and Ernest N. Murrey, 45, of Perris, were indicted last week for the murder of Tony Mirabile, San Diego tavern owner.

Due to legal technicalities, the trial of the trio and another suspect was transferred from San Diego to Los Angeles, allegedly the place where the plot to rob and kill the wealthy cafe owner was hatched.

At Monday's hearing, Judge Drucker set May 6 as the date for a hearing on a defense motion of dismissal of the case.

Mirabile was slain in his San Diego apartment Dec. 28.

Population Growth in Slow Rate

Civic pride took a beating Tuesday night when Torrance's population was set at 96,955, far short of the 100,000 mark hoped for by city officials.

The figure was contained in the preliminary report of the special census presented to City Manager George Stevens by Vernon L. Miller, census supervisor.

"This is very disappointing," Stevens told the City Council sadly. They took it bravely and made no comment.

The city manager said that he was told there is a large vacancy factor in apartments here, possibly due to relocations caused by lay-offs during last year's recession.

Another reason for the smaller population figure than had been expected was the apparent decline in the birth rate here, also possibly caused by last year's economic slump.

Actually, the city's population forged ahead by some 3600 since the last special census in November, 1957. This will mean a cash value of \$30,000 a year to municipal funds from per capita figured state taxes.

Stevens was hopeful that with heavy new home and apartment construction this year that Torrance will top the 100,000 mark next April, when the regular census will be taken.



CLEAN READING—Frank Kristufek, representative of the Torrance Committee for Decent Magazines, presents an annual award of cooperation to George L. Probert, right, owner of Torrance Pharmacy. The award is presented to businessmen who keep magazines deemed not suitable for teenagers away from display racks. The program is conducted on a strictly volunteer basis.

Plan Doubling Kindergarten Classes to Cut Teaching Cost

A proposal to assign two classes to each kindergarten teacher in Torrance schools was taken under study by the Torrance Board of Education Tuesday night. Each kindergarten teacher now has only one class.

Assigning kindergarten teachers two classes would save more than \$105,000 of next year's budget, the board was told. If the size of kindergarten classes was reduced somewhat and if certain other adjustments could be made, quality of the instructional program would not suffer, officials reported.

An increasing number of parent conferences and educational programs in higher grades has reduced a previously heavy load on kindergarten teachers, Supt. J. H. Hull said. Giving the kindergarten teachers two classes is common practice now in most surrounding districts, he noted.

With continuing expansion of the district and a normal number of vacancies this year, there will be places for all present kindergarten teachers, he reported. Although the num-

ber of kindergarten teachers would be reduced from 79 to 40 vacancies and new positions in kindergarten and primary classes should eliminate potential problems, Hull said.

"With some adjustments in the program, we can save more than \$105,000 and that is important," Hull said. "We intend to maintain a high quality instructional program and our study of this proposal to date indicates that we can continue to do so."

"On increasingly tight money situation and uncertainty about next year's budget requires us to tighten our belts. Our enrollment is going up, costs are rising, and we have to pay our teachers enough to get the best possible for our children's instruction. More than 85 per cent of our budget goes for salaries."

Plans Approved for Adams School

Final plans and specifications for Adams Elementary School, 238th and Arlington Aves., were approved by the Torrance Board of Education Tuesday night. Bids will be sought soon.

The new elementary school, which will relieve double sessions at nearby Wood School, will contain eight classrooms, two kindergarten rooms, and administration, multipurpose, and shop and homemaking buildings.

Downtown Merchants Offer Special Mother's Day Gifts

Hundreds of dollars' worth of free gifts will be given away by downtown Torrance merchants as a special Mother's Day event.

Residents may participate in the huge give-away by registering now with their favorite merchants or by clipping out and returning the coupons to be found in a special section of today's Torrance Press.

Most of the downtown stores will participate in the special gift event, with prizes to run to hundreds of dollars.

Next time you visit your favorite merchant, make sure to ask him for the special Mother's Day gift form and fill it out. You may be one of the many winners of outstanding prizes.

Girl Shortage May Cancel Annual Miss Torrance Contest

There may not be a new Miss Torrance this year unless more contestants sign up by the Monday afternoon deadline.

Ted Hill, chairman of the Junior Chamber of Commerce committee which is sponsoring the preliminary to the Miss America pageant, announced this week that the event will be cancelled unless there are at least six contenders.

To date, despite considerable publicity, only two girls have signed up for the contest, and another one has taken out an application form.

While contest sponsors were reluctant to cite reason for the disinterest in the annual event, some potential contestants explained they were irked by the handling of the last Miss Torrance contest, which was postponed four times.

Hill said that everything has been prepared for the May 6 judging, and announced that the winner here will receive a crown and trophy as well as an all-expense paid trip to Santa Cruz to

Craft Exhibit Ends Tomorrow

An exhibition of the works of students of arts and crafts classes sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Dept. will conclude tomorrow.

The display at the Arts and Crafts Center, 1511 Cravens Ave., will be open from 3 until 5 p. m. and 7:30 until 9:30 p. m. today and tomorrow.

In addition to several score samples of adults' and children's accomplishments in mosaics, leather craft, puppets and drawings, there is a showing of four paintings by Mrs. Vicky Feldon of the Torrance Art Group.

Visitors to the exhibit when it opened last week voted on the projects they preferred. First place honors were awarded the mosaic panels of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schmal.

Temporary Buildings at SHS

Because of construction delays, some temporary classrooms may have to be set up at South High School next fall, the Torrance Board of Education was told Tuesday night.

Work on classroom additions to the school was delayed somewhat by difficulties in pouring foundations, but is proceeding at full steam ahead now, officials said. However, the buildings may not be ready by September.

The present enrollment at South High will increase from the present 1330 to more than 1830 this fall. Putting temporary partitions in the old physical education building and on the new gymnasium mezzanine would provide enough classrooms until the new ones could be completed.

O.K. REST HOME

A special permit for a convalescent home at 1955 Lomita Blvd., requested by Chester C. Kohler, has been approved by the County Regional Planning Commission.



TIMELY THOUGHT—Martha Goodrow uses oversize pocket watch to indicate that Sunday at 1 a. m. marks the beginning of daylight saving time. Residents are advised to turn their clocks ahead one hour at 1 a. m. Sunday. The hour they lose will be made up in September when the switch back to standard time is made.

'Shower of Values' - Downtown Torrance See Special Section This Week-End